

Chapter 606

(Senate Bill 1143)

AN ACT concerning

~~Prince George's County~~ **Neshante and Chloe Davis Domestic Violence Prevention Task Force**

FOR the purpose of establishing the Neshante and Chloe Davis Domestic Violence Prevention Task Force; providing for the composition, chair, and staffing of the Task Force; prohibiting a member of the Task Force from receiving certain compensation, but authorizing reimbursement of certain expenses; requiring the Task Force to study and make recommendations regarding certain matters; requiring the Task Force to report its preliminary findings to the Governor and the General Assembly on or before a certain date; ~~requiring the Task Force to meet with the Prince George's County Delegation to the General Assembly to discuss its preliminary findings within a certain number of days after reporting to the Governor and the General Assembly;~~ requiring the Task Force to report its final findings and recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly on or before a certain date; providing for the termination of this Act; and generally relating to the Neshante and Chloe Davis Domestic Violence Prevention Task Force.

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That:

(a) There is a Neshante and Chloe Davis Domestic Violence Prevention Task Force ~~in Prince George's County~~.

(b) The Task Force consists of the following members:

(1) a member of the Senate of Maryland ~~representing Prince George's County~~, appointed by the President of the Senate;

(2) a member of the House of Delegates ~~representing Prince George's County~~, appointed by the Speaker of the House;

(3) ~~the State's Attorney for Prince George's County~~ a State's Attorney, or the State's Attorney's designee; and

(4) the following members, appointed by the Governor:

(i) a representative of ~~the Prince George's County Department of Health~~ a county department of health;

(ii) a representative of ~~the Prince George's County Department of Social Services~~ a county department of social services;

(iii) a representative of ~~the Prince George's County Department of Family Services~~ a county department of family services;

(iv) a member of ~~the Prince George's County Domestic Violence Coordinating Council~~ Leaving Abuse, Supporting Everyone, Restoring Survivors, Inc. (LASERS);

(v) a ~~judge or magistrate with the Family Division of the Prince George's County Circuit Court~~ representative of the Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Center at Dimensions Healthcare System;

(vi) two private behavioral and mental health services providers;

(vii) two representatives of the faith community;

(viii) two representatives of men's organizations;

(ix) two family members of victims of domestic violence;

(x) four members of the domestic violence prevention and victim's advocacy community; and

(xi) a representative of the Prince George's County Family Crisis Center.

(c) The Governor shall designate the chair of the Task Force.

(d) The chair may appoint a vice chair, an executive committee, and subgroups or subcommittees from among the members of the Task Force.

(e) ~~The Prince George's County Department of Family Services, the Prince George's County Health Department, and the Prince George's County Department of Social Services~~ Department of Human Resources shall provide staff for the Task Force.

(f) A member of the Task Force:

(1) may not receive compensation as a member of the Task Force; but

(2) is entitled to reimbursement for expenses under the Standard State Travel Regulations, as provided in the State budget.

(g) The Task Force shall:

(1) study the effectiveness of current intervention strategies and explore new interventions that might strengthen efforts to prevent domestic violence;

(2) study existing legal, behavioral health, and family support policies, procedures, and practices to ascertain existing issues and identify resources needed to improve the delivery and effectiveness of domestic violence prevention and family support services;

(3) study ways to further engage and educate community stakeholders to be better informed and more engaged in identifying and preventing domestic violence in the community;

(4) study the ways individuals, families, and the community at large can better identify, report, and defend against domestic violence; and

(5) develop policy recommendations to improve the ability of State and local government, community stakeholders, families, and individuals to identify and prevent domestic violence in ~~Prince George's County~~ Maryland.

(h) (1) ~~(i)~~ On or before September 1, 2016, the Task Force shall report its preliminary findings to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, the General Assembly.

~~(ii) Within 60 days of reporting its preliminary findings under subparagraph (i) of this paragraph, the Task Force shall meet with the Prince George's County Delegation to the General Assembly to discuss the report.~~

(2) On or before December 1, 2016, the Task Force shall report its findings and recommendations to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, the General Assembly.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June 1, 2016. It shall remain effective for a period of 1 year and, at the end of May 31, 2017, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.

**Approved by the Governor, May 19, 2016.**